

Welcome to

ABSOLUTELY ADVENT!

In just four weeks, something **BIG** is going to happen. Advent is the time to get ready to celebrate that big event. As you complete each day's activity, draw a ★ on the calendar on page 30. When the page is full, the big event will be here!

Each week, follow the story of Levi the Lamb and his shepherd, Ira. They are on a journey, and you can come along.

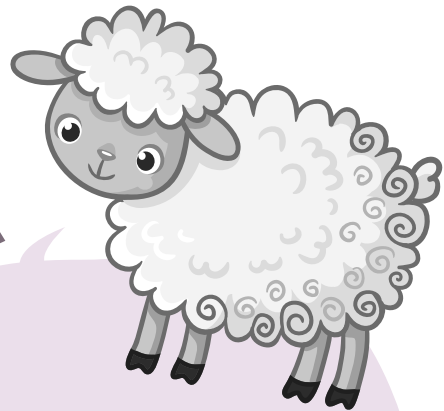
Levi and the Very First Advent

PART 1

Levi was a lively lamb,
who liked to run and play.
Hide-and-seek was lots of fun
he'd play that game all day.

His shepherd's name was Ira.
He was a faithful Jew,
awaiting the Messiah,
the Savior, good and true.

While you walk your Advent path,
let Levi be your guide.
He'll tell you of the FIRST Advent
and walk right by your side.



The Jews waited
thousands of years for
the Messiah (the Savior)
to come. Do you know who
that Messiah was?

Write the name here.

During Advent, we wait to
celebrate the coming of the
Messiah. How long do we wait?

CHECK ONE.

- 4 hours** **4 weeks**
 4 days **4 years**



Second Tuesday of Advent

DECEMBER 12 ★ OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

★ Today's Gospel » Luke 1:39-47 ★

Mary said to her cousin Elizabeth, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior" (1:46-47).

Today we celebrate Mary as **OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**. One cold December day in 1531, she appeared on a hilltop in Mexico to an Aztec man named Juan Diego. She was dressed like an Aztec princess.

Mary told Juan to tell his bishop to build a church in that spot. But the bishop didn't believe Juan had seen Mary. He wanted proof.

Mary told Juan to gather roses and take them to the bishop. Roses in December? Juan was sure he wouldn't find any, but there they were—right where Mary told him to look.

Juan gathered the roses into his cloak and took them to the bishop. When he opened his cloak, there was a picture of Our Lady of Guadalupe right on the cloak!

Color this picture of Our Lady of Guadalupe.



Levi and the Very First Advent

PART 3

Now, Levi loved his shepherd and planned to do as Ira said. Each night he'd walk amidst the flock, head high, eyes straight ahead.

By day they'd rest and, sure enough, Levi kept his word. He slept right there, with all the sheep, until ...one day... he saw a bird.

This bird was not like any other, for one thing, he could talk. He perched right up by Levi's ear and said, "You won't get caught."

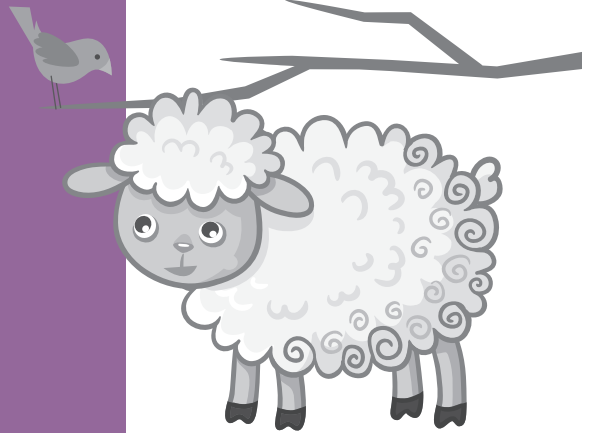
"Whatever do you mean?" said Levi, surprised at this remark.

"Go ahead, run off and play, you'll find your flock at dark."

"Mmm," thought Levi, "that might work. I love to jump and run. Following all the other sheep is not a lot of fun."

So Levi waited for his chance to sneak off from the rest. He ran and jumped and had his fun and thought this plan was best.

Levi started out obeying Ira and staying with the flock. Then a little bird came along and whispered in his ear. Levi listened to the bird and ended up disobeying Ira.



Have you ever felt like you heard a little whisper in your ear telling you to do something you were told not to do? There's a big word for what that little whisper is.

Fill in the missing letters below to complete the word. The missing letters are A, E, I, N, and P.

T _ _ M _ _ T _ _ T _ _ O _ _



Third Thursday of Advent

DECEMBER 21 ★ SAINT PETER CANISIUS

★ Today's Gospel » Luke 1:39-45 ★

Mary hurried to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's voice, she cried, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb" (1:39-42).

Mary's journey to visit Elizabeth was no small trip. Mary lived in Galilee and Elizabeth was in Judea. Using this map, find and mark some of the places where Mary went in her lifetime. **First find the letter on the bottom of the map, then find the number. Follow those lines until they meet.**

Put a dot for:

Nazareth = D9

Bethlehem = D3

Jerusalem = D4

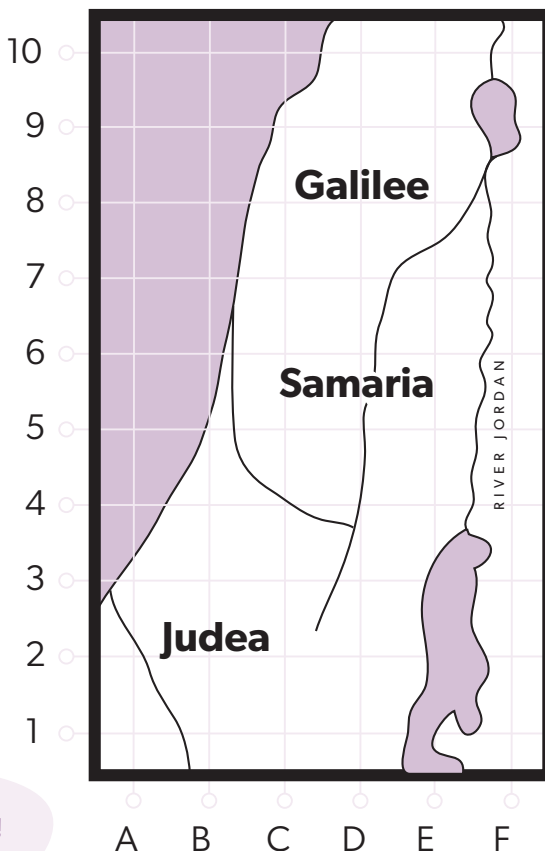
Cana = D10

Draw wavy lines through:

Mediterranean Sea = A3-10

Sea of Galilee = F9

Dead Sea = E2



Remember, there were no planes, trains, buses, or automobiles then! You walked or rode a donkey.



Fourth Sunday of Advent

DECEMBER 24

★ Today's Gospel » Luke 1:26-38 ★

The angel said to Mary, "You will have a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High" (1:31-32).

Today is the third time we have heard this Gospel reading during Advent. It is an important message because Mary hears she will give birth to Jesus. In it the angel refers to Jesus as the Son of the Most High. Jesus is also known by other titles. **This puzzle has just some of those titles. The words are forward or backward, up or down, or diagonal.**

R	M	V	T	W	Y	R	S	N
H	A	I	S	S	E	M	O	S
Z	V	D	I	K	Z	Y	N	O
D	R	V	R	B	F	G	O	N
L	O	K	H	L	N	K	F	O
T	I	N	C	I	K	L	G	F
M	V	J	K	N	N	L	O	M
V	A	L	O	R	D	L	D	A
G	S	K	Z	Y	L	H	M	N

WORD LIST

CHRIST
KING
LORD
MESSIAH
SAVIOR
SON OF GOD
SON OF MAN



I call him "Baa-by" Jesus!
Remember, no matter what title you use for Jesus, he always hears you calling him.

